

STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS

ILLINOIS VETERANS' HOME AT CHICAGO 4250 N OAK PARK AVENUE, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60634 TELEPHONE: 773-794-3763 * FAX: 872-304-6738

JB PRITZKER GOVERNOR T'KIRA SILER-WILKERSON ADMINISTRATOR TERRY PRINCE ACTING DIRECTOR

January 15, 2022

To Staff of the Illinois Veterans Home at Chicago:

An individual at Illinois Veterans Home at Chicago has tested positive for COVID-19. To date there has been (32) cases of COVID-19 among employees at our home, for a total of (32) COVID-19 case among employees since the start of the pandemic. To date, (29) employees have recovered from COVID-19, and (3) have initiated quarantine. All areas of the facility impacted have been deep cleaned and sanitized by our housekeeping staff.

Our top priority is the health and safety of our military veterans and the heroic staff who care for them. We take this very seriously. We are following recommendations from local health officials, the U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs and the Illinois Department of Public Health to safeguard everyone at the facility. This includes continuing our health screenings and COVID-19 testing of staff, maintaining social-distancing practices, wearing face masks, using gloves and gowns when indicated, and intensified cleaning and disinfection protocols. We are working with public health officials regarding possible quarantines and to ensure the full protection, testing, and care of anyone potentially exposed. We are grateful to our team for remaining highly vigilant for signs or symptoms of COVID-19 and for being ready to respond swiftly, appropriately, and professionally to any potential cases.

We understand this news can be distressing, and we encourage you to contact your loved ones for mutual support of one another. We promise to keep you informed as we do everything possible to keep our staff safe. Our wonderful home staff are strong and resilient people. With your continued support, we will get through this unprecedented time together.

Sincerely,

T'Kira Siler-Wilkerson, LNHA

Jana Sen-Wrelam

Administrator